

Message Text

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NODIS/CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, GR, TU

SUBJECT: GREEK/TURKISH DISPUTE IN SECURITY COUNCIL

1. I CALLED AT THE GREEK MISSION AT THE REQUEST OF
AMBASSADOR PAPOULIAS AT 10:30 A.M. FOREIGN
MINISTER BITSIOS SAID HE NOW HAD THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S
RESPONSE. BITSIOS SAID AT THE OUTSET HE WISHED TO CONVEY
HIS SINCERE GRATITUDE FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER'S INTEREST
IN HELPING TO REACH A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS THEN READ FOUR POINTS CON-
STITUTING THE GREEK POSITION AS FOLLOWS:

"1. THE TURKISH PROPOSALS AS CONVEYED TO ME BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE HAVE MANY LOOPHOLES AND CANNOT LEAD TO
PRACTICAL RESULTS.

2. THE RESOLUTION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE EUROPEAN DRAFT WHICH COVERS THE MINIMUM
GREEK POSITIONS IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY IN ORDER TO DEFUSE
THE SITUATION, TO PREVENT A SERIOUS AGGRAVATION IN THE
AEGEAN, AND TO OPEN THE WAY TO MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS.

3. FROM THAT POINT ON, THE GREEK GOVERNMENT WOULD
ACCEPT TO WITHHOLD ITS RECOURSE TO THE INTERNATIONAL
COURT OF JUSTICE; TO ENTER NEGOTIATIONS AT WHATEVER LEVEL
THE TURKS WISH; FINALLY THAT ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM EVENTUAL-

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LY LEFY UNSETTLED WOULD THEN BE SENT TO THE COURT.

4. THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE A COMMITMENT NOT TO CARRY OUT AGAIN RESEARCHES IN THE SENSITIVE AREAS."

3. I RAISED A QUESTION REGARDING THE FOURTH POINT, WHETHER THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S POSITION WAS THAT THE TURKISH UNDERTAKING TO CEASE FURTHER RESEARCH ACTIVITIES WOULD HAVE TO BE PUBLIC OR COULD BE ARRIVED AT IN PRIVATE. BITSIOS RESPONDED THAT THE ASSURANCES IN REGARD TO THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT'S CEASING RESEARCH ACTIVITIES COULD BE WORKED OUT IN TERMS OF WHAT HE HAD DISCUSSED WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER. THE RES WOULD PROVIDE THE OVERALL FRAMEWORK.

4. FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS CONCLUDED BY NOTING THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE TWO FINAL OBSERVATIONS:

(A) THE PRESENT SITUATION IN THE AEGEAN HAD ARRIVED AT A DANGEROUS STATE AND THIS WAS THE "LAST MOMENT" TO CURB TURKISH AGGRESSION AGAINST GREECE AND

(B) GREECE IS NOT ASKING TURKEY TO SACRIFICE ITS RIGHTS BUT MERELY TO STOP PROVOCATIVE ACTIONS IN THE AEGEAN AND TO RESUME MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS.

5. FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS ELABORATED THAT THE GREEK POSITION SIMPLY WAS TO STOP THE TURKS IN WHAT THEY WERE DOING AND THEN TO NEGOTIATE, WITH EACH SIDE PUTTING FORTH ITS RESPECTIVE VIEWPOINTS. HE ADDED THAT WITH THE PSYCHOLOGICAL/POLITICAL CONDITIONS PREVAILING IN GREECE THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO RETURN TO GREECE EMPTY-HANDED. HE STRESSED SEVERAL TIMES, INDICATING IT CAME FROM CARAMANLIS, THAT GREECE WOULD HAVE TO HAVE A RES AS THE OUTCOME OF THE SC DELIBERATION.
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